

SEMI-WEEKLY MAUI NEWS

"FOR THE VALLEY ISLE FIRST"

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JOSEPH H. GRAY, : : : : EDITOR
TUESDAY, : : : : FEBRUARY 7, 1922.

TERRITORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Action of the Maui delegates to the last Republican territorial convention in declining to accept the invitation of the Central Committee to name members of it and the Executive Committee at this time appears to be warranted if the rules of the party are to be interpreted according to their strict letter. In Honolulu the action has been received with great interest and opinions differ radically on the interpretation of such rules.

One article provides that the territorial convention shall be held in July before the holding of the biennial election for delegate to congress. Another article provides that members of the central and the executive committees shall be named by the county delegations in the territorial convention and shall hold office until the next territorial convention. The call for the coming convention is designated at its head as "Official Call for THE Territorial Convention" nothing in the heading or the body of the notice designating the convention as special or as anything else than "THE TERRITORIAL CONVENTION."

It is true that the rules were not drafted to cover and did not contemplate such a condition as has risen and did contemplate the election of committees to hold office two years but there is nothing in the rules to prevent such a construction as the Mauiites put upon them. As a matter of fact the present committee was named to conduct the last election for delegate and there is just as much reason for a new committee being named to conduct the party's affairs in the special election as there would be at a regular election.

There are further good reasons why a committee should be named at the coming convention. The present committee has shown in its votes on several occasions recently that it is not in perfect harmony on the subject of patronage at least. It is so evenly divided on several subjects as to be practically dead locked. Such a condition may be cured by following Maui's interpretation of the rules and choosing a new committee. Such a committee would have a greater amount of confidence from the members of the Republican party generally than the present committee has enjoyed or now has.

On most of the subjects upon which the present committee is divided Maui has little or no interest beyond party harmony. Maui appreciates the invitation the committee extended to appoint members but there are many on Maui who do not want to have any participation in factional disputes that do not concern the party or the territory as a whole. Maui understands that the offer was made in the interests of party harmony but believes that such harmony could be more readily and successfully achieved through the interpretation which it puts upon the rules mentioned.

OPINIONS DIFFER WIDELY

Last week the county attorneys of the territory met with the attorney general and United States Attorney and discussed prohibition enforcement and the law which confers upon the territory concurrent jurisdiction with officials and courts of the federal government. Their discussion, it is said, was more or less informal and after exchanging views with one another they agreed upon certain conclusions. Hardly was the result of the meeting made public before E. J. Botts, U. S. Commissioner for the Territory of Hawaii rendered an opinion on the subject of search warrants which is diametrically opposed to the policy on that subject outlined at the Honolulu meeting.

The conference of attorneys held that territorial laws might be applied, among them the right of district magistrates to issue search warrants according to the law of the territory. But Commissioner Botts holds that search warrants can issue only in accordance with the provisions of the Volstead Act. He does not hold, as one Honolulu paper said in summarizing his opinion, that magistrates cannot issue search warrants but holds they can and may do so as far as the Volstead Act and the act extending jurisdiction provides and no further.

Maui News stands for law enforcement of all laws and with them the Volstead Act. It does not wish to see any unnecessary difficulties put in the way of law enforcement but the provisions for enforcement should be followed as laid down by congress in federal legislation and the legislature for territorial laws.

The last act of congress on the subject merely conferred concurrent jurisdiction on territorial and county courts and officials. It did not and could not extend to them any powers greater than the Volstead Act gives to federal courts and officials. If territorial officials undertook to exercise greater powers they would do so without authorization and would make themselves liable for personal damages which might be occasioned through exceeding the authority specifically conferred upon them.

If a law is obnoxious let it be enforced until the people demand and secure its repeal. If insufficient, let it be strengthened as the people demand its rigid enforcement. There are rules for governmental conduct that prevent adverse criticism and lend respect for the law and for its enforcers but to attempt to assume a greater authority than the law grants would react against its respect in the minds of the people.

MIGHTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Its work completed, the conference for the limitation of armaments has adjourned sine die. Its achievements are now history and what mighty history! The delegates have labored well, faithfully and conscientiously and if they have not accomplished so much as the pacifists had hoped for they have exceeded the expectations of the great majority of conservative, thinking men.

The news which this paper gave to Maui on Friday is the biggest news it has ever published. Even the outbreak of the World War, the entrance of the United States into it and the signing of the armistice faded in importance in the light of this momentous move for world peace.

From the reports of the contents of the naval treaty furnished by the Associated Press there appears everything to commend and nothing to which good citizens of the United States may object. The document is apparently entirely free from anything that would lead

into "entangling relations," something that cannot be certainly said of the proposed quadruple entente. And naval building and armament will now start on the backward march instead of continuing its steady and insistent upward climb. That alone would be a vast achievement and warrants the calling and the holding the conference.

Whether China will be satisfied with the results secured for its benefit in the handling of Far Eastern affairs appears to be a matter of some uncertainty. True, she has not secured all that she asked but she has still been granted much. Japan has shown a far better spirit in her dealings in conference on such subjects than had been hoped for. Just as the naval treaty will lead on to further progress and better things so it may also be hoped and expected that the understandings on Far Eastern issues will lead to more for China and her rehabilitation.

Especial commendation is due to Britain for her voluntary offer, irrespective of any of the negotiations relative to Japan and China and the withdrawal of troops and post offices and for the open door, to restore to China her lease upon Weihaiwei.

President Harding has made his place among the great statesmen of history through issuing the call and doing all that he has done in lining out the scope and plans of the conference. Hughes has made his place in such history as chairman of the conference and head of the American delegation, every member of every delegation deserves the praise of the world, and there is credit enough for all, no matter how minor a part he played in the great work.

Saturday's Republican primary in Wailuku brought out a bumper vote and makes a splendid start for the coming campaign for the delegateship. One of the pleasing features was the large women's vote that was polled.

See that your name is on the great register or you cannot vote on March 25. About half of those who voted at the county primaries failed to cast ballots at the general election and were stricken from the roster. More women than men are in that category.

Amateur sport loses a fine exponent with the going into the movies of Duke Kahanamoku but regret at the loss of a champion is tempered by the satisfaction of knowing that the Duke is to secure a harvest of coin for in Hawaii there is no more popular sportsman than the Duke.

Maui is fortunate that it has not been necessary to move pines to the canneries in recent days. Roads up Haiku way have been impassable and the need of paved main thoroughfares has been accentuated. It is an exemplification of the sort of pavement that good intentions furnish.

Mellon's proposal for a federal tax of 50 cents per horse power on automobiles to meet the proposed soldiers' bonus will make the average car owner wish that the government would cut a mellon.

It is proposed to put a two cent stamp tax on checks to meet the soldiers' bonus. It will simplify work for the banks if the plan goes through but those who now pay bills by check will pay them in cash.

TRY A DEFINITE PLAN

Most of the people of the United States plan to accumulate money and many actually try. A fairly large number succeed. The majority fail.

With the exception of those who have met unfortunate circumstances, those who do not accumulate money usually fail because they have not adopted a definite plan for building up financial independence.

If you are one of those who have not yet started on the road to financial ease, would it not be well to try a definite plan and stick to it?

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